

1                   **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b)**

2                   A television set-top box used as a point of sale terminal at a retail  
3 establishment such as a department store or kiosk. The television set-top box may  
4 include a swipe card reader and is coupled to a television display, an input device  
5 and a printer. The customer accesses a catalog database of merchandise and  
6 inventory using a user interface to point of sale software. The customer may also  
7 enter an order using order entry software forming a part of the point of sale  
8 software. The catalog database is situated on a disc drive within the set-top box  
9 and can be updated from a catalog server as required to maintain accurate  
10 inventory and merchandise information in one embodiment. In another  
11 embodiment, the set-top box operates in a client mode to access information from  
12 the catalog server.

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